#### **Bible Versions**

# DOES THE NEW KING JAMES USE THE SAME TEXTS AS THE KJV?



From "Answers To Your Bible Version Questions" © 2001 by David W. Daniels

**Question:** I know the New King James is said to be a "revision of the King James." But were the Greek and Hebrew texts for the New King James the same as they were for the King James?

**Answer:** not a revision of the King James Bible. It is a subtle perversion of the King James Bible. Though years of extensive research have shown that the Greek and Hebrew texts used for the main NKJV text were similar to those used for the KJV, there is a subtle and deadly poison injected into the NKJV: it changes the meaning of God's words and it lifts up other texts that disagree with the King James.

# A History of Preservation

There is a big difference between God's *preserved* words and man's *perverted* words. And keep in mind that two things had to be preserved through the centuries: the accurate **text** of God's words, and the correct **translation** of those words.

# **Old Testament**

God preserved the words of the Old Testament by the Levitical priests, who faithfully copied them through the centuries. The best manuscript, used by the King James Bible, was the *Ben Chayyim*, also called the "Bomberg Text." This faithful Rabbinic Old Testament, used for the King James Bible, was rejected by the NKJV committee in favor of a Vatican-published text. But it still takes a careful eye (and a parallel Bible) to spot the differences.

## **New Testament**

God preserved the words of the New Testament by His faithful Christian disciples, from Antioch of Syria (Acts 11:26) to the Vaudois people of the French Alps about AD 120. From the 150s on they passed this Old Latin Bible (called "Common Bible" or "Vulgate") throughout Europe and the British Isles. The Vaudois people were regarded by the Protestants and Baptists as "pre-Reformers," passing down the gospel message till the Reformation of the 1500s. Their Bibles and others translated from them, were so accurate they were included in translating the King James Bible. The NKJV committee unwisely used none of these Bibles when deciding the meaning of God's words and how to translate them into English.

# The Preserved vs. the Perverted "Vulgate"

Please remember: the Vaudois' *Old Latin Vulgate* is not the same as the later *Roman Catholic* Latin Vulgate. The Vaudois' Vulgate is God's preserved words of God in Old Latin which brought the gospel to all Europe. The Roman Catholic Vulgate is completely different. It wrongly mixed God's words with the perverted Alexandrian Greek Old Testament, Apocrypha and New Testament. Modern "scholars" falsely declare there's only one Latin Vulgate. But there are *two*: the preserved (Vaudois) and the perverted (Roman Catholic).

# A Mixture of Perversion

The New King James Version is **not** a true King James Bible. It mixes some true King James accuracy with a lot of Alexandrian and "new version" errors. We know this because the NKJV tells us **which** ancient texts they used when they made up their Bible. Don't be fooled by the clever names and symbols. Here is what they say they *really* used:

 The Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, or BHS. This is not the preserved Hebrew Old Testament. This one is approved by the Vatican (Roman Catholic religion) and printed jointly by the Vatican and Protestant Bible societies. In 1937 the "scholars" rejected the preserved Ben Chayyim it for an "older" (but not more accurate) text: the Leningrad Ms B 19a (also called the "*Ben Asher* text"). The BHS states:

"...it is a welcome sign of the times that it was published jointly in 1971 by the Wurttemburg Bible Society, Stuttgart, and the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome...." --Prolegomena, p. XII

The Septuagint, or LXX. As you have seen<sup>1</sup>, the so-called "Septuagint" is a fable. It was
really written *after* Jesus was born, not before. There are *many* Septuagints, since each
Alexandrian Old Testament is *different* from every other. Know what they are? Sinaiticus,

Vaticanus and Alexandrinus - the same exact codices (big books) where the modern perverted **New Testaments** come from!

- The Latin Vulgate. This is not the preserved Vaudois Christian, Old Latin Vulgate. The NKJV "scholars" consulted the perverted, Roman Catholic Latin Vulgate.
- The Dead Sea Scrolls, or DSS. It is clear through Scripture that God preserved His words through the tribe of Levi (Deuteronomy 17:18, 31:9-13, 25-26, Nehemiah 8 and Malachi 2:7). The Qumran community that produced the DSS are **never** said to be Levites. But though God says "the **priest's** lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth" (Malachi 2:7), the NKJV committee instead consulted the DSS as well.
- The Majority Text, or MT. With a name like Majority Text it should be a compilation of the majority of Greek New Testament manuscripts. But it is not. The "Majority Text" is actually a hand-picked set of manuscripts grouped together by "pro-Alexandrian" liberal Hermann von Soden<sup>2</sup>. Less than 8% of the over 5,000 Greek manuscripts were compared to each other by von Soden's team of collators! But the NKJV people give the MT great prominence, writing this inaccurate information in the footnotes.

So people **think** that the King James is wrong, since it disagrees with "the Majority Text." Who cares? The "Majority Text" is **not** the majority of texts! The "Majority Text" is a **big fake**. Don't believe it. And don't trust any Bible that does.

# If It Looks Like a Duck and Talks Like a Duck...

There is another side to the New King James that reveals its ugly alliances.

In most places where the NKJV disagrees with the King James Bible, it agrees with the translations of modern Alexandrian perversions, whether Prostestant like the NIV, NAS, RSV, ASV, etc., or Roman Catholic like the New American Bible.

The King James Bible is God's preserved words in English. The NKJV is just man's **most subtle perversion** of God's words. Don't be deceived. Insist on the King James Bible, not "New" King James, "Modern" King James, King James "2" or "21" or "Millennium,." Even thought it is very **similar** to a King James Bible, it is **not** a King James Bible. Insist on the one you can stake your faith on, the genuine King James Bible. God will bless you.

Verse	King James	NKJV	Perversions

			agreeing with NKJV
Acts 3:26	God, having raised	His <b>Servant</b>	NIV, NASV, ASV,
	up his <b>Son</b>		RSV, Roman
			Catholic New
			American Bible
			(NAB), etc.
Acts 17:22	I perceive that in all	very religious	NIV, NASV, ASV,
	things ye are <b>too</b>		RSV, Catholic NAB,
	superstitious.		etc.
Romans 1:25	Who <b>changed</b> the	who <b>exchanged</b> the	NIV, NASV, ASV,
	truth of God into a lie	truth of God <b>for</b> the	RSV, Catholic NAB,
		lie	etc.
1 Corinthians 1:18	For the preaching of	who are <b>being</b>	NIV, NASV, NASU,
	the cross is to them	saved [This teaches	RSV, Catholic NAB,
	that perish	the Roman Catholic	etc.
	foolishness; but unto	lie that salvation is a	
	us which are <b>saved</b> it process.]		
	is the power of God.		

# Footnotes

1 See "What is the Septuagint?" Return to text

2 Von Soden never *claimed* the texts collated by his team were a "majority" of texts. The book *Greek New Testament According to the Majority Text* by Zane Hodges and Arthur Farstad (1982) used mostly von Soden's work and suddenly called it by a new term: "Majority Text." (Note: NKJV publisher Thomas Nelson also published their book.)

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# Products of interest:



#### New King James - The Bridge Bible ★★★★★ 20 reviews

It is NOT a King James Bible! It promised to be a 5th edition of the KJV, preserving "the originally intended meaning of every verse." But that's not what happened.





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David W. Daniels answers difficult questions about the KJV. Learn how to defend the KJV and why you can trust it.



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